

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. In this response, claims 1, 3, 6 and 13-15 have been amended. Claim 2 has been cancelled without prejudice. New claims 16-33 have been added.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A method comprising:

associating overlapping-areas of a touch interface of a mobile electronic device with letters such that each area is associated with only one letter and at least some of the associated areas overlap with one another;
detecting a location of a user's touch on said touch interface; and
for each area of said touch interface which includes said location, identifying the letter associated therewith.

Claim 2 (Cancelled)

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The method of claim [[2]]1, further comprising:

if two or more letters are identified, using predictive text software to determine which of said identified letters said user intended to select.

Claim 4 (Original): The method of claim 3, further comprising:

providing said predictive text software with an indication that said location is closer to one of said identified letters than to others of said identified letters.

Claim 5 (Original): The method of claim 3, further comprising:

providing said predictive text software with an indication of how much closer said location is to one of said identified letters than to others of said identified letters.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): A mobile electronic device comprising:

one or more touch interfaces to receive a touch by a user;
means for displaying one or more rows of letters;
means for associating overlapping areas of said one or more touch interfaces with said letters such that each area is associated with only one letter and at least one of the areas overlap with one another; and
a microprocessor configured to identify which letters are associated with said areas of said touch interfaces that include a location of said touch.

Claim 7 (Original): The mobile electronic device of claim 6, wherein said one or more touch interfaces is a single touchpad.

Claim 8 (Original): The mobile electronic device of claim 7, wherein said rows of letters are spaced at a sufficient vertical distance that there is no ambiguity as to which row of letters is being touched.

Claim 9 (Original): The mobile electronic device of claim 6, wherein said one or more touch interfaces are two or more touchpads.

Claim 10 (Original): The mobile electronic device of claim 6, wherein said one or more touch interfaces is a single touchscreen.

Claim 11 (Original): The mobile electronic device of claim 10, wherein said rows of letters are spaced at a sufficient vertical distance that there is no ambiguity as to which row of letters is being touched.

Claim 12 (Original): The mobile electronic device of claim 10, wherein for at least one particular letter, an area of said touchscreen associated with said particular letter is overlapped by an area of said touchscreen associated with a different letter of an adjacent row.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): The mobile electronic device of claim 6, wherein for at least one particular letter, an area of said one or more touch interfaces associated with said particular letter is completely overlapped jointly by a portion of an area of said one or more touch interfaces associated with an adjacent letter to the left of said particular letter and by a portion of an area of said one or more touch interfaces associated with an adjacent letter to the right of said particular letter.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): The mobile electronic device of claim 6, wherein for at least one particular letter, an area of said one or more touch interfaces associated with said particular letter is partially overlapped by a portion of an area of said one or more touch interfaces associated with an adjacent letter to the left of said particular letter and by a portion of an area of said one or more touch interfaces associated with an adjacent letter to the right of said particular letter.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): The mobile electronic device of claim 6, wherein said microprocessor is configured to execute a predictive text software module to determine which of said identified letters said user intended to select.

Claim 16 (New): The method of claim 1, wherein for at least one particular letter, the associating step comprises associating an area of said touch interface with said particular letter by completely overlapping jointly said area by a portion of an area of said touch interface associated with an adjacent letter to the left of said particular letter and by a portion of an area of said touch interface associated with an adjacent letter to the right of said particular letter.

Claim 17 (New): The method of claim 1, wherein for at least one particular letter, the associating step comprises associating an area of said touch interface with said particular letter by partially overlapping said area by a portion of an area of said touch interface associated with an adjacent letter to the left of said particular letter and by a portion of an area of said touch interface associated with an adjacent letter to the right of said particular letter.

Claim 18 (New): The method of claim 1, wherein for at least one particular letter, the associating step comprises associating an area of said touch interface with said particular letter by bounding said area by the horizontal centers of adjacent letters on the same row as the particular letter, and by the vertical centers of adjacent letters on upper and lower adjacent rows.

Claim 19 (New): The method of any claim 1, wherein for at least one particular letter, the associating step comprises associating an area of said touch interface with said particular letter by joining the centers of letters nearest to the particular letter.

Claim 20 (New): The mobile electronic device of claim 6, wherein for at least one particular letter, an area of said one or more touch interfaces associated with said particular letter is bounded by the horizontal centers of adjacent letters on the same row as the particular letter, and by the vertical centers of adjacent letters on upper and lower adjacent rows.

Claim 21 (New): The mobile electronic device of claim 6, wherein for at least one particular letter, an area of said one or more touch interfaces associated with said particular letter is bounded by joining the centers of letters nearest to the particular letter.

Claim 22 (New): A mobile electronic device comprising:

one or more touch interfaces configured to display one or more rows of letters and receive a touch by a user; and

a microprocessor configured to associate areas of said one or more touch interfaces with said letters such that each area is associated with only one letter and at least some of the areas overlap with one another, and said microprocessor is further configured to identify which letters are associated with said areas of said touch interfaces that include a location of said touch.

Claim 23 (New): The mobile electronic device of claim 22, wherein said one or more touch interfaces is a single touchpad.

Claim 24 (New): The mobile electronic device of claim 23, wherein said rows of letters are spaced at a sufficient vertical distance that there is no ambiguity as to which row of letters is being touched.

Claim 25 (New): The mobile electronic device of claim 22, wherein said one or more touch interfaces are two or more touchpads.

Claim 26 (New): The mobile electronic device of claim 22, wherein said one or more touch interfaces is a single touchscreen.

Claim 27 (New): The mobile electronic device of claim 26, wherein said rows of letters are spaced at a sufficient vertical distance that there is no ambiguity as to which row of letters is being touched.

Claim 28 (New): The mobile electronic device of claim 26, wherein for at least one particular letter, an area of said touchscreen associated with said particular letter is overlapped by an area of said touchscreen associated with a different letter of an adjacent row.

Claim 29 (New): The mobile electronic device of claim 22, wherein for at least one particular letter, an area of said one or more touch interfaces associated with said particular letter is completely overlapped jointly by a portion of an area of said one or more touch interfaces associated with an adjacent letter to the left of said particular letter and by a portion of an area of said one or more touch interfaces associated with an adjacent letter to the right of said particular letter.

Claim 30 (New): The mobile electronic device of claim 22, wherein for at least one particular letter, an area of said one or more touch interfaces associated with said

particular letter is partially overlapped by a portion of an area of said one or more touch interfaces associated with an adjacent letter to the left of said particular letter and by a portion of an area of said one or more touch interfaces associated with an adjacent letter to the right of said particular letter.

Claim 31 (New): The mobile electronic device of claim 22, wherein said microprocessor is configured to execute a predictive text software module to determine which of said identified letters said user intended to select.

Claim 32 (New): The mobile electronic device of claim 22, wherein for at least one particular letter, an area of said one or more touch interfaces associated with said particular letter is bounded by the horizontal centers of adjacent letters on the same row as the particular letter, and by the vertical centers of adjacent letters on upper and lower adjacent rows.

Claim 33 (New): The mobile electronic device of claim 22, wherein for at least one particular letter, an area of said one or more touch interfaces associated with said particular letter is bounded by joining the centers of letters nearest to the particular letter.